

#### 4. OCCURRENCE OF INDIAN PAINTED FROG *KALOULA TAPROBANICA* (FAMILY MICROHYLIDAE) AT ARNALA BEACH, MUMBAI, MAHARASHTRA

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On July 16, 2009, while walking near Arnala beach (19° 27' 07.32" N; 72° 44' 54.64" E), Virar, Mumbai, Maharashtra, we came across a small frog on a bark of *Casuarina equisetifolia*. Based on its coloration and morphological features, e.g., fingers enlarged into large and flattened discs, it was later identified as Indian Painted Frog *Kaloula taprobanica* (BNHS Reg. No. 5250).

This species belongs to Family Microhylidae. It is a medium-sized (adults < 6 cm) frog with snout flat, triangular, and balloon-like body with obscure or absent tympanum (Daniel 2002; Daniels 2005). This is one of the widely

distributed but uncommon species of frog in many areas. It is reported from many places in Assam, West Bengal, Orissa, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat (Giri *et al.* 2001; Daniel 2002; Sivakumar *et al.* 2003; Daniels 2005; V. Giri pers. comm.). This species is found in rural, agricultural and forest area, including Western Ghats and are well adapted to live in highly urbanized areas also (Daniels 2005). Interestingly, it is found from sea-level to over 1,000 m above sea level (Daniels 2005). According to mentioned references this species was not reported from Maharashtra until recently, and thus deserves attention.

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#### 5. OCCURRENCE OF EPIZOIC CIRRIPEDE, *CONCHODERMA VIRGATUM* (SPENGLER, 1790) ON *PENNELLA INSTRUCTA* WILSON INFECTED ON SAILFISH *ISTIOPHORUS PLATYPTERUS* CAUGHT FROM NORTH-WEST INDIAN EEZ

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#### Introduction

Indo-Pacific Sailfish *Istiophorus platypterus* (Shaw and Nodder 1792) belonging to Family Istiophoridae is a primarily oceanic, epipelagic fish inhabiting the tropical and temperate waters of Pacific, Indian and Atlantic oceans. This fish constitutes a major bycatch component of tuna longline fishery in the Indian waters. The abundance of this species in the north-western Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) is evident from the fact that an average catch rate of this species in the exploratory longlining was 39.42 kg/1000 hooks, constituting 15% of the total catch (Varghese *et al.* 2004).

*Pennella instructa* Wilson (Syn. *Pennella zeylanica* Kirtisinghe) is a copepod parasite infecting many marine fishes, especially billfish, including swordfish, sailfish and marlin. In India, Devaraj and Bennet (1972) had described this species infested on sailfish, *I. platypterus* (Shaw and Nodder, 1792) and collected from the South-east and South-west coasts of India. During September 2006 survey voyage of *MFV Matsya Vrushti*, longline survey vessel of Fishery Survey of India operating from Mumbai Base, seventeen female specimens of *Pennella instructa* Wilson were collected from two sailfishes caught from 18-19 °N and 67-69 °E. All the